



# Gambling Trends

This Washington State Gambling Commission newsletter is dedicated to keeping the Legislature and other government agencies updated on gambling in Washington State and nationwide.

**Gambling Special Agents** are commissioned law enforcement officers.

Agents attend the Basic Law Enforcement Academy and receive the same training as other police officers.



## Come See What We Do

**Agent ride-along:** See how we regulate and enforce gambling laws across the state.

**Tour our forensics labs** in Spokane and Lacey. This is an opportunity to see state-of-the-art equipment and discuss protocols used by our forensic experts to examine a wide array of electronic and media storage devices.

**Learn** how our criminal investigations protect the public.

**See** how we test gaming machines for compliance in our Electronic Gambling Lab in Lacey.

### Forensics Crime Lab

Key Resource for Law Enforcement Agencies

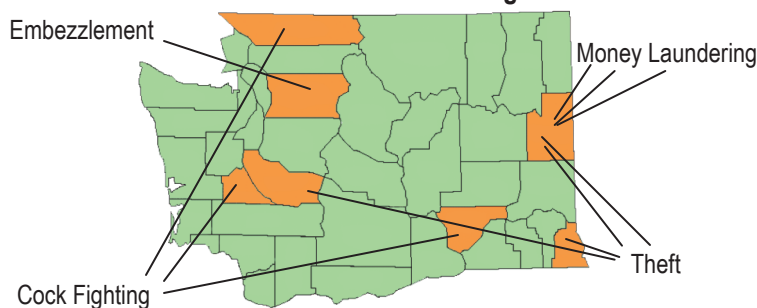
- Money laundering experts
- Mobile & cyber technology
- Retrieving data from cell phones & computers
- Analyzing data for prosecuting criminal cases

### Criminal Activities

#### We Investigate:

Theft Bookmaking  
Fraud Embezzlement  
Cheating Animal Fights  
Money Laundering  
Loansharking  
Internet Gambling

### Recent Criminal Investigations



## Washington State has Avoided Gambling Scandals Due to the Gambling Commission's Regulatory Presence in the State. (News articles linked below)

**California** Former San Diego mayor using charitable foundation to fund \$1 billion gambling habit.

**Florida** 10 Miami police officers face federal charges for protecting illegal sports betting operation.

**Florida** Former Lt. Governor resigns, 2 police officers convicted of operating illegal Internet café.

**New Jersey** Genovese organized crime family member and 11 associates charged with operating illegal offshore gambling.

**Illinois** Former Governor convicted of wire fraud linked to race track owner and a law taxing casinos 3% to subsidize racetracks.

**New York** 21 arrested on gambling charges linked to organized crime ring stretching from New York to Florida, netting millions from sports betting.

**Rhode Island** 13 arrested for sports wagering operation linked to organized crime.



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**Our Mission: Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest.**

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## Online Gambling

### Illegal Internet Gambling and Cyber Crime are Increasing

Internet gambling is illegal in Washington State.

We have trained 1,200 officials from the U.S. and 70 other countries on illegal Internet gambling and cyber crime.

We are founder and co-chair of an **International Internet Gambling Task Force** working on education, awareness and coordinating enforcement activities to deter illegal Internet gambling.

### Online Fantasy Sports Wagering

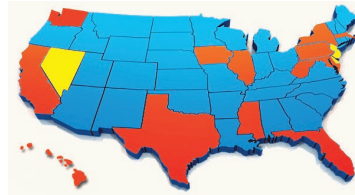
is not authorized in Washington State. Despite the fantasy sports exemption in the federal Unlawful Internet Enforcement Gambling Act, state laws apply.

SB 5284/HB 1301 were introduced during the 2015 legislative session to classify fantasy sports as contests of skill. Although the bills died, we expect fantasy sports will continue to be of interest. We are building our expertise in this area and can answer your questions.

### Intranet Gambling By States

3 states have authorized Intranet gambling, restricted to residents within their borders:

- Nevada (2011)
- Delaware (2012)
- New Jersey (2013)



13 States considering Intranet gambling legislation:

California	Florida	Hawaii	Illinois
Iowa	Maryland	Massachusetts	Mississippi
New York	Pennsylvania	Texas	West Virginia
Washington State	( <a href="#">HB 1114</a> )		

## Washington State Gambling Commissioners



Chair  
**Chris Stearns**



Vice Chair  
**Bud Sizemore**



Commissioner  
**Kelsey Gray, PhD.**



Commissioner  
**Julia Patterson**



Commissioner  
**Ed Troyer**

## Our Link to the Legislature - Ex Officio Members



Senator  
**Steve Conway**  
29th District



Senator  
**Mike Hewitt**  
16th District



Representative  
**Christopher Hurst**  
31st District



Representative  
**Bruce Chandler**  
15th District

## Who We Are

- Created by the Legislature in 1973 after a series of gambling-related scandals.
- Non-general fund, non-appropriated agency.
- Funded by licensing and regulatory fees paid by licensees and Tribal governments.

## What We Do

- Remove the criminal element from gambling
- Investigate & stop illegal gambling
- License & regulate legal gambling
  - Criminal background checks on owners & employees
  - Source funds for ties to criminal activities

**We are the only statewide law enforcement agency devoted to gambling licensing, regulation and enforcement.**

Our agency is Accredited by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs.



***"The criminal element and gambling will always intersect."***

Frank Harrill  
FBI Special Agent  
Eastern WA

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 [WAGambling](#)

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